

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

10/30/2009

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MASTER LIBRARIAN BILL SIEMENS PASSES

The following obituary for former consortium librarian Bill Siemens was posted to AkLA-L on 10/28/2009:

“Please take a moment to remember Bill Siemens who passed away quietly at home last week. Some of you knew him as a charming person with a special capacity for reference service. But there can be few left in the library field who remember him in his prime in the 1970s and 1980s as perhaps the most able reference librarian in Alaska. It was a joy and a privilege to watch him work the paper tools of those times for information. He was an imaginative, energetic, and fearless investigator who pleased patrons and delighted colleagues. He was even unintimidated by government documents, which nearly everyone else ran from in those days. Many wise patrons did not feel that their research was done until they had consulted him.

Bill was one of the founding librarians of the Consortium Library in 1973, immediately elevating its status with a statewide reputation for superior reference service. He and his father built houses all over Anchorage, he restored old automobiles, and he was a woodworker of rare talent who created exquisite furniture. Most of all, he was a good and lasting friend to many who walked with him for a time through life.

Alden Rollins
Professor Emeritus of Library Science”

BOB BANGHART NEW CHIEF CURATOR

The Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums is proud to announce the appointment of Bob Banghart as Chief Curator of the Alaska State Museums. Bob was most recently the Curator of Exhibitions at the Alaska State Museum in Juneau. Bob brings a seasoned perspective to his new position. He first worked for the State Museum in 1974-75 as an

exhibits designer and from 1975 to 2007 he was owner of Banghart & Assoc. a cultural resource management and exhibits firm. The company worked statewide on new facility development and renovation, exhibit development and cultural center development. Bob had this message for his coworkers after learning of his appointment:

“I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the many individuals that have offered an enthusiastic welcome to my appointment as the Chief Curator at the Alaska State Museums. I look forward to the opportunity to work with the LAM leadership and staff to continue delivery of outstanding services to our constituency in addition to our collective future in developing new methods of serving the communities of Alaska.”

Please join us in welcoming Bob to his new duties.

MUSEUM COMMITTEE CANDIDATES SOUGHT

The Alaska State Museums (the Alaska State Museum in Juneau and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka) are seeking candidates for appointment to the Museum Collections Advisory Committee (MCAC). The MCAC is responsible for approving donations, acquisitions, and deaccessions for the Alaska State Museums. Members serve a three-year term without compensation. A minimum of two teleconferences are held annually, in the spring and fall.

Candidates should have knowledge and significant experience in at least one of the following areas: Alaska history, fine arts, natural history, archaeology, anthropology, or museology. Interested individuals should send a letter of interest and resumé by November 10, 2009, to: Bob Banghart, Alaska State Museums, 395 Whittier Street, Juneau AK 99801.

If you would like additional information before applying, please contact Bob Banghart at the Alaska State Museum at 465-4866 or by e-mail at bob.banghart@alaska.gov.

DEAN DAWSON APPOINTED ACTING STATE ARCHIVIST

With the elevation of former State Archivist Glenn Cook to the position of Deputy Director, Records Manager Dean Dawson has been named Acting Alaska State Archivist until the position is permanently filled. Dean has many years experience with the Alaska State Archives and has trained many people in proper records retention. Dean may be reached at 465-2275 or by e-mail at dean.dawson@alaska.gov.

HUNDREDS OF HISTORICAL PAMPHLETS CATALOGED

In the world of physical items, what is not cataloged may as well not exist. From this perspective, Rose Welton and Lisa Simpson of the Alaska State Library (ASL) have brought a valuable collection to light through their efforts at cataloging (Rose) and barcoding (Lisa). The collection is the ASL Historical Collections Pamphlets file. There were 29 acid free boxes of items on 5 shelves, with 1119 items barcoded in 1035 titles (some titles had multiple copies).

This file contains many items from Judge Wickersham's "Pam and Clip" files and many other older Alaskan items. One of the possibly unique items in the collection is the *Map of Harris Mining District : tributary to Juneau, Alaska* created by CW Hooper in 1898.

To view records for other items in the Historical Collections Pamphlet file, please visit the State Library's catalog and use "PAM file item" as a keyword search.

DAVID ONGLEY OF TUZZY HONORED

Sue Sherif of our Anchorage Office recently sent in this report of a new honor for Barrow librarian David Ongley:

"A number of Alaskans attended the Native American Archives, Libraries, and Museums conference, STREAMS, in Portland this week. We had good representation of Alaskans from all over the state and had great conference experience there.

One of the highlights was the presentation of the American Indian Library Association's Significant Contribution Award to our own David Ongley of Tuzzy Consortium Library in Barrow. Hooray and well-deserved!!!

We are proud to have a colleague with such dedication, one who is always thinking ahead."

David Ongley has received a number of national awards over the years, including being named a Library Journal "Mover & Shaker" in 2006.

ALA LEADERS EMERGE IN ALASKA

The Division of Libraries, Archives and Museums would like to congratulate new ALA Emerging Leaders Wendy Girven (Egan Library, University of Alaska Southeast) and Elizabeth Moreau (Anchorage Public Library). The press release announcing these and other ALA emerging leaders can be found at http://www.ala.org/ala/newspresscenter/news/pressreleases2009/october2009/emergingleaders_hldr.cfm. More information about the emerging leaders program itself can be found at <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/hrdr/abouthrdr/emergingleaders.cfm>. Hat tip to Sara Saxton for this item.

PROGRAM REWARDS YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

The Young Entrepreneur Award program offers scholarships ranging from \$1,500 to \$10,000 to graduating high school seniors.

The scholarships are sponsored by the National Federation of Independent Business. Awards are given to academically high-achieving students who demonstrate the entrepreneurial spirit and initiative through examples such as starting a business or participating in student business organizations.

The deadline is December 31. See <http://www.NFIB.com/YEF>. (EED Information Exchange, 10/30/2009)

PTA REACHES OUT TO MILITARY FAMILIES

In recent weeks, representatives from the National Military Family Association worked with the Parent Teachers Association at the state and national level.

In mid-October, Kathleen Moakler, Government Relations Director at NMFA, traveled to Alaska to take part in a series of dialogues between military families, family program and healthcare providers, state legislators, city government leaders, non-government organizations, and Alaska PTA volunteers.

The sessions were held in Fairbanks, Anchorage, and Kodiak. Participants in each session were briefed on service family support programs, military health care, veterans' benefits, as well as new legislation affecting service members and their families.

The NMFA and the Armed Services YMCA were highlighted as organizations with "best practices" and presented overviews of how their programs were impacting military families. Time was allotted at the end of each of the 6-hour sessions for a discussion of what programs were helping families and where gaps existed.

A report of these meetings will be presented to the Alaska legislature's Joint Armed Services Committee and to the Alaska congressional delegation. This project was funded by the Alaska legislature through a grant to the Alaska PTA.

Special thanks go to Paula Pawlowski and Chris Ward (NMFA representatives in Alaska) and Al Tamagni from the Alaska PTA for inviting the NMFA to take part in this timely series of meetings.

In addition to participating with PTA on the state level, Candace Wheeler, Government Relations Deputy Director, traveled to the National PTA Headquarters in Chicago, where she represented the NMFA at the first meeting of the PTA Alliance to Support Military Families.

The mission of the new alliance is to educate PTA families across the country and overseas on how to support military families, and to give military families the tools to become better advocates for their children. Other members of the alliance are the Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA), Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA).

See <http://www.nmfa.org>. (EED Information Exchange, 10/30/2009)

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